

The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 5363.—VOL. XXXV.

SHIP ADVERTISEMENTS.

AUSTRALIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.—The Company's steamer EAGLE is open to passengers for towing vessels in the harbour and to sea.

Terms, &c., can be arranged at the Company's Office, from Mr. L. & J. M. Wilson & Co.; Michael McNeil, Captain Master; or from the Harbour Master, 11, 2, and 4 o'clock.

Passenger list, 10, 1, and 4 o'clock, from Watson's Bay at 11, 2, and 4 o'clock.

Fares either way: Saloon, 2s. 6d.; fore cabin, 1s. 6d.; children, half price.

JOHN BRIDGES, Secretary, 10, 2, and 4 o'clock.

Passengers are constantly running to and from the gate of Campbell's Wharf.

PARRAMATTA STEAMERS.—Twice daily, Sunday and Monday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and 4 o'clock, from 8 a.m. and a quarter before 2 p.m. Phoenix Wharf, 10, 2, and 4 o'clock.

On Friday, 10, instant, no steamer will run.

STEAM TO THE HUNTER.—THE TAMAR.—For Morpeth, Tuesday, 10, and 2, and 4 o'clock.

FRANCIS TERRY, Assistant Manager, 10, 2, and 4 o'clock.

STEAM TO THE HUNTER.—THE ACCOMMODATION STEAMER BEN RYAN.—R. L. PATTERSON, commander, for Morpeth, Tuesday, 10, and 2, and 4 o'clock.

For freight or passage apply at KELLCROSS' Wharf, 10, 2, and 4 o'clock.

H. H. HALL, Manager.

STEAM TO MORETON BAY.—RATES OF FARES:

Saloon 5s 6d
Fore cabin 3s 6d
Children 2s 6d

Including Provisions, &c.

A. S. S. CO., Conveniences and Provisional Steamship Company.

STEAM TO MELBOURNE.—Fares 1s. Saloon, 1s. 6d.; fore cabin, 1s. 6d.; children, 1s. 6d.; freight, 1s. 6d. Passengers will be accommodated on the wharf of any other change.

JOHN WILSON, 10, 2, and 4 o'clock.

Passenger list, 10, 1, and 4 o'clock, from Watson's Bay, the 28th instant, at 8 p.m.

This vessel accommodates 20 steerage passengers, and has ample room for company of horses and cattle.

FREDERICK TERRY, Assistant Manager, 10, 2, and 4 o'clock.

STEAM TO THE WHARF.—Under command of Captain WILSON, 10, 2, and 4 o'clock.

Passenger list, 10, 1, and 4 o'clock, from Watson's Bay, the 28th instant, at 8 p.m.

This vessel accommodates 20 steerage passengers, and has ample room for company of horses and cattle.

FREDERICK TERRY, Assistant Manager, 10, 2, and 4 o'clock.

STEAM TO MELBOURNE.—Fares 1s. Saloon, 1s. 6d.; fore cabin, 1s. 6d.; children, 1s. 6d.; freight, 1s. 6d. Passengers will be accommodated on the wharf of any other change.

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SYDNEY FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Chairman—T. W. Smart, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—Charles Kemp, Esq.
Directors—J. P. Chapman, Esq.
T. H. B. B. Jun., Esq.
J. R. Young, Esq.
W. R. Scott, Esq.
Secretary—Mr. James D. Mitchell.

COUNTRY AGENTS.
Who will offend information to all persons wishing to insure and receive applications for insurance of properties in their respective districts.

The town and district of Parramatta—Mr. J. F. Staff.
" " " " " Bathurst—Mr. John Dawson.
" " " " " Penrith—Mr. John D. Green.
" " " " " Goulburn—Mr. Robert Craig.
" " " " " Maitland—Mr. Alexander Dadds.

The Directors of the Sydney Fire Insurance Company call the attention of the public to the following reduced scale of their rates of premium:

1. Shaded buildings, &c., to 12s. per cent.

2. Weather-boarded buildings, 1s. to 9s. per cent.

3. Buildings, with or without iron roofs, to 12s. per cent., for twelve weeks, or of all years, provided that the actual cost of insurance will be one-half only of the above rates.

The Company has established upon the principles of the Fire Office, with the exception of the insurance of the Royal Fire Insurance Companies in Germany, and which established, on the occasion of the great fire in Hamburg, the soundness of its principles.

It is then paid in less than full, without inconveniences to lie members.

All parties desirous of insuring in this Company may satisfy their particular requirements by referring the book to the ability of members to make good the amount of their respective contributions.

An application for insurance is to be made to the Secretary, or the agent of the Company, Mort's Commercial Buildings, Pitt-street.

J. S. MITCHELL, Secretary.

Mr. T. J. Town, Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, at the Engine Station, No. 266, George-street, brick-hill.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE.—Notice is hereby given that the undermentioned have been appointed agents for the above Company, and have received instructions to receive applications for insurance of property in Canton, and one vessel £500 on specie, and £10,000 on produce and freight from Sydney or Melbourne to Great Britain, India, and China, and vice versa.

The Policies will be made payable in case of loss, at the option of the assured, as under:

In China, by Messrs. Mathews and Co.
Calcutta, by Messrs. Jardine, Skinner, and Co.
In Bombay, by Messrs. Hastings and Co.
In Madras, by Messrs. J. and P. P. Co.
And in Sydney by Mr. John P. F. Miller.

And in Sydney by the under-signed.

Agents—John P. F. Miller, Agent.

John Skinner, Agent.

W. C. Cargill, Agent.

John Cargill, Agent.

The Corporation's present drawing rates of exchange are as follows:

To Great Britain, 2 per cent.; To Java, 2 per cent.

To China, 2 per cent.; To Calcutta, 2 per cent.

Singapore, 2 per cent.; To Madras, 2 per cent.

Malta, 2 per cent.; To California, 2 per cent.

India, 2 per cent.; To South America, 2 per cent.

To the Cape of Good Hope, 2 per cent.

To Port Phillip, 2 per cent.

To Australia, 1½ per cent.; To New Zealand, 1½ per cent.

To Tasmania, 1½ per cent.; To New South Wales, 1½ per cent.

To Swan River, 1½ per cent.; To Port Cooper, 2 per cent.

To Tasmania, 1½ per cent.; To Port Phillip, 1½ per cent.

To Victoria, 1½ per cent.; To Port Phillip, 1½ per cent.

To New Zealand, 1½ per cent.; To Port Phillip, 1½ per cent.

To N.E.—Goods insured with particular averages, from 1½ to 2 per cent. extra.

Agents—THACKER AND CO., Agents, 841, George-street.

Agents for the Launceston Fire and Marine Insurance Company, July 25.

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THE FAST DAY.

To the Editor of the Sydney Morning Herald.

The letter of "A Protestant" in your issue of this day, seems to me to be wholly uncalled for, and injudicious on the approach of the solemn service in which we are about to be engaged. Whether the Rev. Mr. M'Encroe is right or not, it will not stop to enquire, for anything that creates a difference of opinion, if it be so slight, should be avoided. To me it seems not, a question whether the members of our communion have set apart that particular day of the week, on all occasions for fasting and prayer, and therefore some other ought to be chosen; but would rather lean to the charitable supposition, that that every day was chosen, in deference to the established custom of those churches.

But I would take a far higher ground than that? "A Protestant" demands upon me, and would, instead of merely drawing attention to the day of the week assigned by a Rubric, would point to a higher authority, for what a Fast Day ought to be. Instead of fomenting discord at such a solemn season, it is our bounden duty, if we would hope to obtain the blessing of God on our Fast, to observe it as he has ordained. What can be more beautiful, or more appropriate under the peculiar circumstances of our case than that the world's scruples be avoided?

"Is it such a fast, I have chosen, a day for a man to mourn his soul? Is it to howl his head as a bushrake, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Yet then call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord?"

"Is not this the fast I chosen, to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that we break every yoke? Is it not to let thy bread be broken, and that they bring the morsel out of thy hand? Is it not to make the naked that thou cover him, and that thou hide not thyself from them own flesh?"—Leah, 58 chap. 6, 6, and 7.

Let us strive rather, to conform in our fast to the doctrine here inculcated, than seek to create cause for differences. It is as a Nation we would prostrate ourselves before the throne of our God. Let no sectarian vice, or pride, or sense of minor importance, intrude and mar so holy an occupation.

While those of widely different creeds (to their high honor be it recorded), have chosen to adopt the day set apart by our Church, let not individual members of it find fault with this choice. If we would hope for a blessing on these united prayers and offerings, they must spring from the heart, not from the observance of forms, or days, or seasons.

I am, Sir, your &c.,
A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND,
Fort-street, August 10th.

WRIJN'S. OFFERINGS.—OUR DEFENCES.

To the Editor of the Sydney Morning Herald.

—Much has been recently written on the subject of the sympathy of the *fallen*—*to fall* in the present contest, than to stir them up to the common decency of respective men's duty. In a foreign port, will our Englishman meet a parallel to the vast amount of commercial wealth so utterly unprotected as is presented by Port Jackson, and is it to the disgrace of Government and people that it is so. Put aside the fact of actual war, and take the symbol of our country on behalf of the wife and children of those *fallen*—*to fall* in the first instance, her Majesty's declaration made on the 15th of April, 1854, recites, in the first instance, her Majesty's declaration made on the opening of the war; but it then goes on to enact, not only that enemy's property laden on board neutral vessels shall not be seized, but that all neutral and friendly ships shall be permitted to import into her Majesty's dominions, and to export from them whatsoever, and to export everything in like manner, except to blockaded ports, and except that articles which require a special permission as being contraband of war. But this liberty of trade is not confined to neutrals. It is further ordered that, with the above exceptions only, British subjects shall have free trade "with all ports and places where *similar*." True, that British ships are to be permitted to enter the ports of neutrals, and to return a salute? Is it not a feeling of pride on the part of that man can look at even a foreign gun frigate from Gingerbread Point, and reflect that there was power in her broadside alone to blow the spirit of our whole city into atoms—for most certainly it can be asserted, that had the Russians a Napier in their Dvina (as lately as the end of March at Valparaiso) they would have been compelled to make a stand, and have much less to do, in sailing up this harbour, knocking our fort guns over, sinking our little Calloope, pasting Government House into the shades, and laying our town under contribution, or firing the best of it than our Napier did in taking a couple of Portuguese liners, in a frigate, some few years ago, off Cape Saint Vincent. From the date of the American blockade running up in the night, and being only sprung, the 29th of June, to the daylight next morning, it became our inconstant duty, to make a decent act of self respect to build forts and support men to men on a peace establishment, and if so, then it is doubly necessary now on a more efficient gait.

The secret of continued apathy under the repeated efforts of the Press to arouse it, it is to be hoped is that of the indifference of any man to stand prominently in the front as a standard-bearer to the cause, than want of spirit in the mass. First, then, no man, legislator or other public man of sufficient patriotism to act a practical beginning on foot—it only wants the star, but this must be made by some one, two, or three of name and station, and let such try, in reliance, that they will not be left without followers if they will only unfurl a rallying flag to the spirit of the colonists. Such purposeless will open, and muse, blood, and plumb, and surely not wanting in New South Wales. If they are—*most fitting*, lesson for such a people, let the *British*—any other for come, and find some of the best points for defence in the world without a gun, sack our wealth, destroy our city, desecrate our homes, and then, if we are not an entirely degenerate race, we may acknowledge with shame the necessity of the respect of proper means of self-defence. War is not a curse. We have each our pluses to ourselves, ourselves, or each to our collective whole—the State. Without some public spirit a community is unworthy, and every member spirit of name and station, and let such try, in reliance, that they will not be left without followers if they will only unfurl a rallying flag to the spirit of the colonists. Such purposeless will open, and muse, blood, and plumb, and surely not wanting in New South Wales. 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The Sydney Morning Herald.

No. 5363.—VOL. XXXV.

SECOND EDITION. EUROPEAN NEWS, BY THE LADY JOCELYN.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, steamer, CAPTAIN GOURLAY, which arrived at the wharf at one o'clock, to-day, has brought on the mail by the LADY JOCELYN.

We lose no time in presenting to our subscribers the intelligence as furnished by the Melbourne papers.

(From the M. M. Herald.)

The news from the seat of war is highly interesting. There has been no one great engagement, but the contest is now gradually extending itself all over Europe. Bombardments are going on at various places, at Siliatra, Riga, Hango, Sebastopol, &c. Some brilliant achievements have been effected in the course of the several actions; the performance of the steamers Arrogant and Hecla are particularly noticeable. Eight thousand French troops had been posted in the Piraeus. Lord Raglan was at Schumla with Omar Pacha, reviewing the Turkish troops.

The Russian fleet had not made its appearance at Sebastopol to encounter the allied fleet stationed there.

A German confederacy had given its adhesion to the Austro-Prussian treaty. Warlike preparations were being everywhere made.

A rupture between Austria and Russia was daily expected.

The Russian Government was reduced to the meanness of issuing uncontroversial Treasury Bonds.

The wreck of the Tayleur sold at auction for £480.

The Money Market was very tight. Consols were quoted at 92, having advanced from 91, at which the market. A loan on Government securities would be effected at 2 per cent.

LONDON.

(From our own Correspondent.)

June 3, 1854.

Ministers have been defeated on two occasions, by majorities of 9 and 4. They have since withdrawn several measures.

It is understood that a distinct minister—that of minister of war—will be at once created. Lord Palmerston is named as the new minister.

The Victoria Constitution has reached Downing-street, but it is reported that nothing will be done this session in the matter.

The war progresses slowly. The Russians have made a desperate but useless efforts to take Siliatra. Omar Pacha, after a conference with Lord Raglan at Schumla, is advancing to raise the siege with 90,000 men. English and French troops are advancing to Schumla.

A forward movement of the main body of the allies was hourly expected.

Sebastopol had been "shelled" experimentally, but the fleet was waiting for reinforcements by land.

Some dashing cutting-out affairs have taken place in the Baltic. Admiral Napier was anchored before Fort Hango, ready to bombard it. Some "Shelling" had taken place.

Austria has sent an ultimatum to Russia demanding the evacuation of the Principalities, but we are doubtful of the sincerity of this, and treachery is still suspected in that quarter.

The King of Portugal landed at Southampton this morning, and is now in London.

Arrivals from Port Phillip: Marco Polo, Kangaroo, Aberfoyle, Kent, Constant, Francis Ridley, Surry.

THE WAR.

FIGHTING IN THE BALTIC.

BOMBARDMENT OF HANGO.

DESTRUCTION OF THE FORTS, WITH GREAT LOSS TO THE RUSSIANS.

GALLANT EXPLOIT OF THE ARROGANT, AND HECLA.

The following appeared in the second edition of the *Daily News* of yesterday:—

We have received the following communications, which give some interesting particulars of the recent operations in the Baltic. It will be noticed that our letters bear date three days later than the despatches of Admiral Napier:—

DETAILS OF THE BOMBARDMENT OF HANGO.

Hango Roads, May 25.

We are at this moment under the batteries of Hango. The fleet, or at least that portion of it now present with the commander-in-chief, arrived here on the 20th instant, and anchored within range (extreme) of the enemy's guns. The walls and embrasures were crowded with Russian soldiers, who stood at their quarters as we approached. They did not fire upon us. We took up our positions unmolested, and we showed similar forbearance towards them. The ships and forts then remained silently watching each other's movements until yesterday, when the programme was altered for one of a more exciting character.

Three insular forts protect the entrance to the harbour, massive structures, composed of huge blocks of granite, casemented, evidently heavily armed with guns, as well as mortars.

The principal fort, called Gustavus Svard, sweeps the approach to the harbour with a long tier of guns, *en barbette*, and also from casement batteries beneath. The other forts, Duman's Holm, and Gustavus Adolphus, to the eastward of the central fort, rake the entrance, and are pierced with embrasures looking to seaward. The shore all around is covered with masked batteries, raised in commanding positions, concealed by trees and branches, and not very readily distinguished.

We all felt that we were about going into action yesterday, as boats were observed on the previous evening, from the flag-ship, sounding the different channels, and laying down buoys, within range of the fortifications. The marines and small armed men were mustered for field service, and every disposition apparently made for landing a force, or having a storming party in readiness to act, as soon as the batteries were breached.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1854.

PRICE THREEPENCE.

In the afternoon, the Dragon, Captain Wilcox, was ordered to take up a position close by an island, where a buoy had been previously laid down. This position flanked the principal fort, Gustavus Svard, and only two guns evidently, out of the many that mounted the walls, could be trained to bear upon her. The vessel was now ordered, by signal from the flag-ship, to try range of guns. She immediately opened fire. The first shot—the experimental one—was good in direction, but fell a little short; the second struck the fort about the centre of the wall; the succeeding ones commenced ploughing up the turf forming the breastwork on the summit of the walls, and sending the fascines and sand-bags flying into the fort in profusion. After the second or third shot the fort replied. The ship and fort then continued the engagement for about three hours, during which several of the Dragon's shells burst right over the centre of the fort, and must have caused severe loss. Two of the shells which struck the walls did considerable mischief, smashing up one of the embrasures. The engagement was not a rapid one, on the contrary, a slow and steady fire was maintained on both sides. The Magicienne was ordered somewhat later in the day, to a corresponding position on the opposite side of the small, narrow, rocky island in question, and opened a effective fire upon one of the masked batteries on the land side, into which she threw several shells. The battery replied with shell, and it is thought with red-hot shot, but the Magicienne was evidently out of range. The Basilisk next joined the group. The Hecla, Captain Hall, was employed in engaging the Gustavus Adolphus. Several of her shot and shell told with great effect. All the shots from the fort against the Hecla fell short. The Hecla remained at her anchorage for the night. The other steamers were recalled about half past four. The guns on the forts were worked at extreme elevation. The fire was therefore rather a plunging one, and but little ricochet in consequence. The Dragon alone had any casualties—one man killed, and another wounded. She was struck three or four times.

(From the *Melbourne Argus*, August 14.)

In the House of Commons, on the 2nd June, Mr Divett asked the Under-Secretary for the Colonies whether the Constitutional Act, passed by the Legislature of South Australia, had been received at the Colonial Office; and if so, when it was the intention of Government to propose a measure on the same.

Mr. Peel said the Act of South Australia was received some time ago, but the Crown had not yet given its assent to it, and it was impossible to take any measure upon it without having the corresponding bills of the other Australian colonies. The Constitutional Act of Victoria had been received only within the last two days; and the whole subject was now under the consideration of the Government.

There is not much intelligence of importance in reference to the progress of the war. The latest is supplied by the evening edition of the London journals of the 3rd June.

VIENNA, FRIDAY, JUNE 2.

Austria despatched to-day a most earnest summons to Russia, to evacuate the principalities within a time to be specified by the Czar himself.

This is authentic.

To-day's telegraph is in so far confirmed that a treaty has been concluded between Austria and the Porte, only, and approved by the Western Powers.

This is authentic.

The Vienna Post states that, after conferring with the French and English commanders, Omar Pasha on the 26th advanced towards Siliatra with 90,000 men, in two columns. His right wing leans on the heights near the Taban Dene, and his left on the river Driste. This statement is considered probable by the *Press*.

It is stated that by the Convention concluded between the Porte, Austria, England, and France, Austria will occupy Montenegro, Albania, and Servia, and will triumphantly before the astonished gaze of the soldiery, whom they repulsed to a most respectful distance. The Arrogant and the Hecla, commanded by Captain Hall, have been wounded in the eye by a Minie ball. The Dragon also gallantly cut out two splendid brigs from Revel on the 21st. She ran into Revel previous to proceeding on a reconnoitring expedition towards Helsingfors, when she was recalled by the Lightning, and arrived this morning in time to exhibit her good gunnery on the fort in presence of the squadron. We have the following force at present: Duke of Wellington, St. George (which joined on the 19th), Princess Royal, Cressey, Caesar, Blenheim, Edinburgh, Hogue, Austerlitz, Arrogant, Penelope (arrived on 19th), Imperieuse, Magicienne, Dragon, Basilisk, Lightning, Hecla, Gorgon, Tyne (storeship). I think I have now given you most of the interesting news.

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pieces) and a Russian helmet. The senior Lieutenant, together with two seamen of the Hecla, were severely wounded in the affray, and one man was killed. The Arrogant had one man killed, one severely wounded, who died the next day, and three wounded. The loss of the enemy is unknown, but is supposed to have been considerable. The Arrogant and Hecla, on coming into Hango Bay, received three hearty cheers from the crews of the various ships, the Duke of Wellington hoisting the signal, "Well done, Arrogant and Hecla."

On the forenoon of the 22nd the Magicienne, 16, Captain Fisher, and Dragon, 6, Captain Wilcock, anchored off Hango. The Dragon, during her cruise in the Gulf of Finland, reconnoitred the port of Revel. Perceiving therein two of the enemy's vessels at anchor under the batteries, she attempted to capture them, even at the risk of being severely handled. The gallant captain of the Dragon took up such a position that the guns of the fortress could not be brought to bear upon him. Shot after shot was fired by the enemy, but each fell wide of its mark. In a short time the two vessels were taken, and were towed into Hango Bay by the Dragon on the following morning. An excellent opportunity of proving the range of the large pivot guns placed on the forecastles of steam vessels was afforded this day. The Dragon, Basilisk, and Magicienne, having signified a wish to try the effects of shot and shell at long range, it was intimated to them that no better target could be found than the fort of Gustavsvaen. These vessels accordingly anchored off the fort, at a distance of about 1560 yards, and for a period of two hours kept up a constant bombardment. A great many of the shot and shell fired by the Dragon pitched on the enemy's fort, and must have killed several of the men stationed at the guns, besides causing great destruction to many portions of the fort itself. The enemy returned the fire slowly, but their guns were well laid, as the Dragon was struck by no less than 20 shot, 15 of which penetrated her hull, one of them entering her shell room, but fortunately causing no material injury. One of her men had his leg shot off, and died shortly afterwards. The Magicienne, 16, Captain Fisher, dropped some shell on the centre of the fort, which appeared to cause considerable damage. The Hecla, Captain W. H. Hall, in the meantime tried the effect of her large pivot gun on the smaller fort of Gustaf-Adolph, but after having discharged a few shot and shell she was ordered to cease firing. It is expected that the fort of Gustavsvaen will be attacked to-morrow by a portion of the fleet. Four line-of-battle ships would take it easily.

The *Journal de St. Petersbourg* of the 26th ult. states that, on the 22nd May, the allied fleets, under Admiral Napier (which, as that veracious *Journal* adds, had just been augmented to twenty-six sail of the line by the arrival of the French fleet), attacked the advanced fortifications of Hango, consisting of Gustavsvaen, Gustaf-Adolph, and Skansholm. The attacking force consisted of 6 steamers, which, for the space of five hours, discharged broadsides of heavy shot, and threw shells of 68 and 96 pounds on the Russian works. At the end of this time the steamers were forced to retire, considerably damaged by the fire from the Russian batteries. The Russian loss is stated at none killed and eight slightly wounded. The Emperor, in consideration of this brilliant exploit, has raised Lieutenant-Colonel Moller, who commanded the batteries, to the rank of Major-General, and distributed various orders, together with a gratuity of one silver rouble to each man engaged in the affair.

OPERATIONS IN THE BALTIC.
Mr. Hall wished to call the attention of the First Lord of the Admiralty to the reports that were in circulation from the fleet in the Baltic, and asked whether he was prepared to state to the House the nature of any reports which he had received from the Baltic. (Hear, hear.)

Sir James Graham: The Admiralty received to-day a despatch from Sir Charles Napier, dated the 23rd of May, off Hango, where he was at anchor, with eight sail of the line, in the Bay of Hango, at the entrance of the Gulf of Finland. He sends an account of an exploit, which, though not on a large scale, is yet a very gallant feat of arms performed by one of her Majesty's frigates and a small steamer. It appears that on the 21st of May they heard of three large merchantmen in an inlet about ten miles distant, and placed under the fire of a fortress of very considerable strength. The Arrogant, commanded by Captain Yelverton and a small steamer, the Hecla, under the command of an officer very well known to the House and the country—I mean Captain Hall, formerly better known as Captain Nemesis Hall (hear, hear)—for his distinguished conduct in China (hear, hear); these vessels proceeded up the two representatives of France. A great deal of valuable time is consumed in the preparations that have to be made for accommodating the allied forces ere they take the field: and we hear a great deal of the superior commissariat and other arrangements of the French, and of our own defective plans. I make great allowance, however, for the good old English privilege of "grumbling." We could never get on without it, because John Bull, after he has found fault hasty with everything and every body, including himself, turns round with most excellent facility, and lands himself up to the skies. No doubt we have much to learn of our neighbours, and probably they do study more than appearances, so their soldiers benefit accordingly; but the French have had great difficulties to contend with, like ourselves, and have not at the moment been able to contend against them all. Up to the last moment, not desiring war, we have jointly hoped for peace, and thus are less prepared than we might be; but surely wonders have been done—the transport of a large force some thousands of miles not being a small thing to accomplish. Great inconvenience is experienced from the fact of the horses in Turkey, though hardy, being too small to mount our cavalry well, and the French chasseurs are in the same predicament. Then the spacious and splendid barracks at Scutari, where our troops are located, have been swarming with vermin, so that several regiments prefer "camping out." This is rather strange, for the Turkish hospitals are models of cleanliness, and I presume the Eastern warriors have left these little memorials behind for Saxon initiation into their social habits. The troops, however, enjoy good health generally, and when they are cured of the tendency to imbibe the cheap liquor that is sold near their quarters, they will be still better. Some amusing and not very creditable scenes have arisen during the excitement of fraternisation and justification. One uncouth Highlander had bestowed his kilt upon a wee Frenchman, and when brought before the officers next morn for being drunk presented the most extraordinary appearance, with his long red trousers, short British jacket, and towering bonnet and plumes. On the whole, the soldiers of the two countries agree amazingly well, and express mutual and, I believe sincere admiration of each other, predicting

ship struck the ground, and when the fog cleared we found we were about 150 yards from the beach, and about five miles to the south of Odessa. Every effort was made to get the ship off, and guns fired to call the attention of our consort, but without effect. Some of our guns had been thrown overboard, and others moved to lighten the ship, so that when the batteries on shore opened their fire, one gun only could be fired, and that with little or no execution. The captain and four others were struck down with wounds, and in less than ten minutes from the commencement of the firing, the ship was in flames in two places. We struck our colours, and hoisted Russian in token of surrender. We were obliged to leave the ship in a great hurry, but permission was given to take what we wished on shore. Nothing could exceed the extreme kindness of our captors, and we are told to ask for all we want. We fare very well, and the crew are as happy as circumstances will permit. General Osten-Sacken and other Russian officers have been very attentive, and have called on the captain and officers.

The captain was progressing well, and it was

expected that in about eleven days they would be granted parole, and be quartered in the town. At the time of writing the prisoners were in the quarantine ground. The writer speaks highly of the kindness and consideration manifested by Madame Osten-Sacken, who, feeling much interested in the fate of a young midshipman who died of his wounds, caused a lock of his hair to be cut off and set in a locket, which is intended to be sent to his friends in England.

Mr. Giffard, the midshipman of the Tiger, was a nephew of the captain. He died directly he was taken on shore. The poor fellow was a native of Cawandah, and his friends reside there. We are informed that the ball that struck him was the same ball that struck Captain Giffard, and that it was fired at a distance of three miles and a half; a fact which, if true, shews that the Russians have guns of a very long range.

THE WAR.

The proceedings in connection with the war are of general interest, though not yet of that importance which the public impatience so anxiously desires. Since the bombardment of Odessa our ships have kept possession of the Black Sea without being able to tempt the Russian fleets to appear even at the entrance of their posts. Unfortunately the Tiger, an English steam-frigate which ran aground near Odessa, was attacked by artillery sent from that city, and before she could receive any assistance, was compelled to surrender, one midshipman being killed, besides a great many of the crew wounded, and Captain Giffard, the commander, having his foot shot off. The vessel was quite powerless, being unable to use her guns with any effect, but the Russians could not get her off afterwards, and poured red hot shot into her, by which she blew up. The crew, numbering upwards of 200 men, were taken into Odessa as prisoners, and it appears by letters from the Captain and surgeon, that they have been very well treated.

Among the complications that have arisen in this Eastern business, not the least curious, and at one time threatening, has been the recent differences between General Baraguay d'Hilliers, the French envoy at Constantinople, and the Porte. It is said also that the General was not on the best of terms either with Lord Stratford. We can readily imagine the extreme danger, not to say impolicy, in an entanglement between two powers, one of which had sent its troops to assist the other, and the triumph which Russia would have derived from it. Nor was it a good example to the Turkish Cabinet, the members of which were as they always are, quarrelling among themselves, and intriguing to obtain the ascendancy. No doubt Russian gold has to do with this. With regard to Baraguay d'Hilliers, however, the French Government, acting, as it has done throughout, with the utmost loyalty towards England, has recalled him, and he will have some post given to him nearer home, where his over hasty temper can do less harm. Probably he will take the command of the camp that is to be formed at St. Omer, destined, if needed, for the invasion of the French provinces. Lord Stratford got some of the Greeks exempted from expulsion, and d'Hilliers then made a sweeping demand for an enormous list to be similarly favored. This could not be acquiesced in, and hence the breach which made him threaten to demand his passports. Verily the Porte has enough to do to humor and pacify its Christian allies! In the meantime, General St. Arnaud is expected to be Commander-in-Chief and Plenipotentiary, so as not to have conflicting powers vested in two representatives of France. A great deal of valuable time is consumed in the preparations that have to be made for accommodating the allied forces ere they take the field: and we hear a great deal of the superior commissariat and other arrangements of the French, and of our own defective plans. I make great allowance, however, for the good old English privilege of "grumbling." We could never get on without it, because John Bull, after he has found fault hasty with everything and every body, including himself, turns round with most excellent facility, and lands himself up to the skies. No doubt we have much to learn of our neighbours, and probably they do study more than appearances, so their soldiers benefit accordingly; but the French have had great difficulties to contend with, like ourselves, and have not at the moment been able to contend against them all. Up to the last moment, not desiring war, we have jointly hoped for peace, and thus are less prepared than we might be; but surely wonders have been done—the transport of a large force some thousands of miles not being a small thing to accomplish. Great inconvenience is experienced from the fact of the horses in Turkey, though hardy, being too small to mount our cavalry well, and the French chasseurs are in the same predicament. Then the spacious and splendid barracks at Scutari, where our troops are located, have been swarming with vermin, so that several regiments prefer "camping out." This is rather strange, for the Turkish hospitals are models of cleanliness, and I presume the Eastern warriors have left these little memorials behind for Saxon initiation into their social habits. The troops, however, enjoy good health generally, and when they are cured of the tendency to imbibe the cheap liquor that is sold near their quarters, they will be still better. Some amusing and not very creditable scenes have arisen during the excitement of fraternisation and justification. One uncouth Highlander had bestowed his kilt upon a wee Frenchman, and when brought before the officers next morn for being drunk presented the most extraordinary appearance, with his long red trousers, short British jacket, and towering bonnet and plumes. On the whole, the soldiers of the two countries agree amazingly well, and express mutual and, I believe sincere admiration of each other, predicting

glorious results when once they get in the field against the enemy. The Turks admire the French most, probably on account of their long pointed boards a la *Henri Quatre*, but they evince the utmost astonishment at the size and drill of our foot guards. The huge bear skin caps are totally inexplicable to the Mussulmen. In campaign it is clear there must be some alteration in the dress of our men. They are tightened and strapped up so grievously with their cravats, bands and packages, that they faint even on parade at times, and drop off upon the march. Here the French are said to excel us again, and also in their cooking and other contrivances; but active steps are being taken to remedy this; and even our lords and right honourables with the household brigade as said to be turning out omelettes and broiling steaks, by the aid of Soyer's book and stove, in a way that would perfectly astonish the lady frequenters of Almack's, accustomed to the easy indifference of ball-room companions. It's astonishing what moral courage will do beyond mere physical strength. While many of the privates, with the best possible feeling and a determination to act as British soldiers should do when the "tug of war" comes, are writing home doleful complaints to the girls they leave behind them; their officers take things generally as they come, treat privations as a matter of course, and perhaps even as a good joke if ever they return to tell it, and delight to prove that a gentleman can make himself useful if required. The army at large are getting impatient to be led against the Russians, and when we can get our cavalry mounted we shall not doubt to win to the aid of Omar Pasha. Siliestrin is closely invested by the Russians with an immense force, and cannot long resist the heavy battering force brought against it. The commander is a first-rate officer, and has several times repulsed the besiegers. What he wants, however, is a large force to cause a diversion without, and this Omar Pasha seems restrained from attempting, having strict orders to run no risk, and await the allies. Lord Raglan, Marshal St. Arnaud, and the other officers, hold a council of war with him at Varna, and the plan of action will then be settled. Even if Siliestrin fell, regrettable as would be the loss of so many fine soldiers, I do not see that the Russians could possibly hope to make head long. It is only a question of time, as I conceive, and they must be driven out of the provinces. Probably they would be too glad to go, but that very shame will compel them to show fight. Our fleet has not yet attempted anything against Sebastopol, and if we can spare troops to land in the rear of the fortress, it will give us a better chance. The Sultan has been giving grand dinners to the Duke of Cambridge and the Prince Napoleon, and receiving them very cordially, allowing for the restraint which eastern customs impose. I fancy our cavaliers will get more honour than a nusment, the Mussulmen being too phlegmatic to be agreeable companions, and the great charm of society—women—being entirely wanting. A few of the more enterprising of the young officers have tried to get a glimpse of the veiled beauties, and have succeeded, though intruders have got whipped off unmercifully by the attendant eunuchs; whether the grapes are sour I cannot say, but certain it is that some of the Sultan's ladies seen in their ornate cars at the Valley of Sweet Waters, are reported as yellow and "puffy." Perhaps they are not fair specimens.

It has been remarked that objections are raised by General St. Arnaud against the correspondents of newspapers accompanying the army, and that he is trying to get Lord Raglan to agree with him. This narrow-minded policy, however, can never be carried out. The press now is the fifth estate, and expends enormous sums to keep the public well informed, as undoubtedly it has a right to be. The Government cannot attend to these things; and if it attempted them it bald and skeleton dispatches would excite little interest. There can be no danger from reckoning facts, since the enemy would not see our journals back until long after they were stale as news; and as to intended plans our public writers are too patriotic to reveal them, even if they came to their knowledge. Even the Russian Government finds it necessary to publish a readable account of what occurs, but I suspect the strictures upon certain unnecessary hardships imposed on our soldiers by their tight accoutrements, heavy baggage, &c., are not much liked at head-quarters. The army and the public will at least be grateful. The Times has Mr. Russell, a barrister, at £1000 a-year, and the Chronicle Captain Maxwell. The other papers are also represented.

Turning to the Baltic, we find there has not been much done beyond preparation. The weather has been very cold, with dense fogs at times, the same as in the Black Sea, and the Russians taking up the buoys, and ceased to illumine the lighthouses, our ships have to creep very cautiously. We find too, that many of their charts, published before the war was thought of, are very incorrect, and describe places as having deep water, where it does not in reality exist. Some of our ships paid a visit to Liban, and captured all the Russian merchant vessels that were there, no resistance being attempted, as the place is not fortified. At Hango Point, which is in the entrance of the Gulf of Finland, an outer fort has been taken, and brought it off, having triumphantly executed the duty imposed upon him. (Cheers.) Sir Charles Napier observes that this is an exploit worthy of the British arms in the best times of our naval history. (Cheers.) And what must be particularly satisfactory to the House is, that notwithstanding the doubts that were entertained with regard to the manning of the British navy, Captain Hall received his appointment only three months ago. (Hear, hear.) He was one of the last ships commissioned, and he manned the ship in a very short time, and with a very considerable proportion of what might be called landsmen. If I had been called on to mention the ship that was last perfectly manned I should have named the Hecla; yet such is the character of British seamanship that the execution of this feat of arms was performed with the most brilliant courage. (Cheers.) Sir Charles Napier adds that, on the following day, in an attack on two forts, the conduct of two others of her Majesty's ships was very distinguished, and the whole state of the fleet was reported by Sir Charles Napier as most satisfactory. (Hear, hear.) The French fleet had not joined. It was expected to join in five or six days from the 23rd, and by this time I have no doubt the French and English fleet combined is in the Gulf of Finland, 28 sail-of-the-line, with frigates and other vessels in proportion. (Cheers.)—Times, June 3rd.

THE CAPTURE OF THE TIGER.
Our correspondent at Plymouth has been favoured with the following interesting particulars of the capture of the Tiger at Odessa, from a letter received by Mrs. Domville, the wife of Mr. H. I. Domville, the surgeon on board that ship, and who is one of the prisoners. It appears that the party are treated with great kindness by the captors:—

"ODESSA, May 5.—Left Sebastopol with the Vesuvius and Niger on the 11th. A dense fog came on, which continued all night. About six on the morning of the 12th the

ship struck the ground, and when the fog cleared we found we were about 150 yards from the beach, and about five miles to the south of Odessa. Every effort was made to get the ship off, and guns fired to call the attention of our consort, but without effect. Some of our guns had been thrown overboard, and others moved to lighten the ship, so that when the batteries on shore opened their fire, one gun only could be fired, and that with little or no execution. The captain and four others were struck down with wounds, and in less than ten minutes from the commencement of the firing, the ship was in flames in two places. We struck our colours, and hoisted Russian in token of surrender. We were obliged to leave the ship in a great hurry, but permission was given to take what we wished on shore. Nothing could exceed the extreme kindness of our captors, and we are told to ask for all we want. We fare very well, and the crew are as happy as circumstances will permit. General Osten-Sacken and other Russian officers have been very attentive, and have called on the captain and officers.

NEW COLONIAL MINISTER.

A very important administrative change is on the cards here. You will have heard in my former communications that the Duke of Newcastle was Minister of War, and you may suppose he has been pretty hard worked, having the Colonial Department to attend to. Strange to say he has managed to get through his duties somehow, and is much praised accordingly. We have the authority of inspired wit, however, for asserting that no man can serve two masters, consequently I feel gratified in learning by an answer which Lord John Russell gave in Parliament, that a Fourth Secretary of State is to be created; who is to receive the appointment when the "tug of war" comes, and that on Monday a strong commanding was heard in that direction. This of course puts an end to all speculation as to the truth of a previous telegraphic despatch, that the castle of Gustavswaen had been destroyed. The French fleet having nearly finished taking in coals and provisions, it is thought, in case the other ships arrive that are immediately expected, that it will put to sea on Monday next.

(Signed) ROBERT TOTTINGER, Surgeon.

LATEST NEWS FROM NAPIER.—Hamburg, May 27.—A telegraphic despatch from Copenhagen, dated 3 p.m. this day, announces that the British fleet, under Sir Charles Napier, was lying before Gustavswaen on Sunday, the 21st inst., ready for immediate action, and that on Monday a strong commanding was heard in that direction. This of course puts an end to all speculation as to the truth of a previous telegraphic despatch, that the castle of Gustavswaen had been destroyed. The French fleet having nearly finished taking in coals and provisions, it is thought, in case the other ships arrive that are immediately expected, that it will put to sea on Monday next.

According to reports from Stockholm up to 22d May, nothing was known of the taking of Gustavswaen. The Swedish-Norwegian fleet was then at Elfsenabben.

Some weeks ago a paragraph went the rounds of the press, British and Continental, about a schooner (*the Libertas*), belonging to Russian Finland, having been captured by a British cruiser, placed in charge of English sailors, who were made drunk by the captain, then overpowered and retaken. The whole is now known to be a pure invention. The vessel in question was never captured, but was lately sold at Hernebad.

It appears by a Parliamentary return that there were in New South Wales last year 1200 soldiers in Van Diemen's Land 854, soldiers in Tasmania, 1200, in South Australia 1100, soldiers in Western Australia 1100, sappers and miners; in New Zealand 1200 soldiers, exclusive of officers, 35 artillerymen, 22 sappers and miners, and four officers of engineers; and in Western Australia 100 sappers and miners. There were no artillerymen in Australia.

Major Murray, one of the Colonial Land Commissioners, had been to Ireland, and selected a number of women from the workhouses of Cork for free emigration to Australia. About 500 applicants were mustered, and those generally of from twenty to twenty-five years were selected to the number of 200 in all. The Commissioner passed all who were described as widows. An intelligent woman, was selected as ward mistress.

certainly two or three redoubts which must be bombarded at the point of the bayonet. The only difficulty that I apprehend is, that the Admiralty will send gunboats totally unfitnessed for sea-fight, as they ought not to draw more than six feet of water, and should be built of sufficient scantling to bear the concussion of heavy artillery."

Mr. PETERSBURG, May 21.—The feeling in Austria becomes more hostile from day to day. The Emperor is reported to have said—"The Austrian Government makes public opinion an excuse for its policy, but when I entered Hungary, in 1848, I did not trouble myself about public opinion." The excitement of his Majesty is so great that few persons can venture to address him; indeed, it is feared that his religious fanaticism will take a bad end. In spite of the assertions of some of the Russo-German organists to the contrary, there is a great concentration of troops in Russian Poland. The Grenadier corps—about 35,000 or 40,000 strong—will be forwarded from Warsaw to the Austrian frontier by rail.

On the frontiers of the Bokovina and Transylvania, there are between 150,000 and 170,000 men. In the course of next month there will be another levy (the fourth in one year) in Poland. The Russian agents have discovered a singular document in Montenegro, which they are about to publish.

It bears date 1716 (Joseph II), and is a kind of convention made with Austria, by which the Vladika binds himself, in case of a war between any Christian Power and the Porte, "to act against the latter in the Montenegro fashion," which means to rob, plunder, and decapitate.

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